Win Moses

Indiana State Representative, District 81



Summer, 2001

Dear Friends:

The 2001 long session of the Indiana General Assembly has ended with the passage of a new state budget and several other important pieces of legislation. I am pleased we completed our work on time in a bipartisan manner.

The new two-year state budget includes increased funding for education, CHOICE and other important programs while avoiding a general tax increase. The budget also includes funding for several important local projects that are detailed inside this newsletter.

We passed several other laws that will benefit our state in a variety of areas, including health care, education, crime, election reform and environmental protection. We made improvements to our license branch operations and passed legislation that will protect consumers from annoying telephone calls with the establishment of a do-not-call list. I have described many of these new laws in the next few pages.

In addition, you will find a map of our new legislative district. We are required to redraw the district boundaries every 10 years due to population shifts. I welcome those of you who are new to the district and look forward to working with you in the coming months to make Indiana a better place to live.

Please contact my office if you have additional concerns or questions about state government. You may e-mail me at H81@ai.org or call toll-free at 1-800-382-9842.

Sincerely,



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LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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Inside

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New budget increases school support, local development

he budget bill that became law continues our record of avoiding general tax increases while providing additional state support to our schools, health care and local projects.

The final version of House Enrolled Act 1001 enables the state to increase support for public schools across Indiana by an average of 3.5 percent each of the next two fiscal years, with minimum guarantees built in to help schools avoid cutting programs and personnel. Funding for higher education was increased by an average of 3.2 percent each year.

Services and local development

The budget includes additional funding for the CHOICE program that provides in-home care services for the elderly and disabled, as well as Build Indiana Fund support for research and technology, community wastewater and drinking water grants, airport development and improvements to voting systems.

Tax relief

It was disappointing that we were unable to provide the levels of tax relief that were included in past state budgets, but I am pleased that we were able to extend the life of the homestead credit at 10 percent and maintain

House of Representatives honors Charles Redd

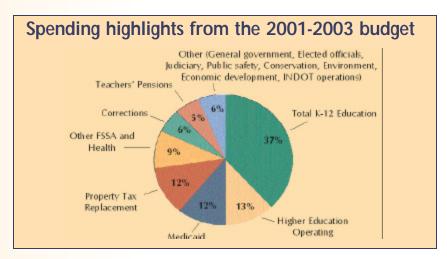
Charles B. Redd was honored during this year's legislative session. In a resolution which I introduced, Redd was recognized for his life's service to mankind and his dedication

to civil rights.

Redd worked for the Urban League of Fort Wayne in 1968, and assisted the NAACP in its efforts to desegregate public schools.

Other positions Redd had held include administrator of affirmative action programs for GTE, representing the 1st District on the Fort Wayne City Council, chairman of the Indiana Democratic African-American Caucus and chairperson of the Fort Wayne Housing Authority.

Redd is shown here with his wife Jacqueline.



the earned income tax credit that assists working families on lower incomes.

Businesses and farms will receive an income tax credit on personal property beginning in 2003, and mobile homes have been changed to be treated as real property with similar deductions. The budget bill continues to fund a statewide property tax relief program that now takes about 16 percent off all property taxes. When coupled with the 10 percent homestead credit, that translates to savings of around 26 percent.

A bill the size of the budget does not contain everything I would like, but considering the fiscal restraints facing legislators going into the 2001 session, I feel this budget is a major accomplishment.

New legislation fosters economic development for Indiana

The major economic development initiative to come out of the 2001 legislative session is contained in House Enrolled Act 1962, which creates the Skills 2016 Job Training Program.

Workers already on the job will be able to access additional instruction to gain new skills, while those people just entering the work force will be able to take part in improved industrial and building trades programs offered through such locations as Ivy Tech State College.

Since 1997, Hoosiers on moderate and lower incomes have had the chance to use Individual Development Accounts (IDA). By setting aside some of their own money, people in the program can obtain state matching funds to help them own a home, start or invest in a small business or send a child to college. House Enrolled Act 2130 makes that program permanent and expands eligibility requirements to those earning 175 percent of the federal income poverty level.

Finally, through Senate Enrolled Act 160, the state will begin to form a comprehensive economic development policy to help improve the quality of life in rural Indiana.



Domestic violence, drug laws toughened

One of the major accomplishments of the 2001 session is passage of legislation that will help protect victims of domestic violence. Senate Bill 518 assures that people victimized by domestic violence, stalking and sexual assault do not have to pay a fee in order to obtain a protective order. This change brings Indiana into compliance with the federal Violence Against Women Act of 2000.

The legislation also enables a judge to consider incidents of domestic violence that have taken place in front of a child when sentencing an offender. Indiana will be required to register and enforce protective orders issued by other states. Law enforcement officers and governmental entities will be granted immunity for enforcing an order issued in good faith.



REP. MOSES NOMINATED
ALLEN COUNTY
COMMISSIONER LINDA BLOOM
TO THE INDIANA COMMISSION
ON WOMEN. BLOOM'S
APPOINTMENT WAS MADE BY
GOVERNOR FRANK
O'BANNON.

Methamphetamine

Methamphetamine, also known as meth, is a drug that has created increasing problems in both rural and urban areas of our state. Since the chemicals used to make the drug can be found on most farms, there has been an increased occurrence of thefts and other crimes in those locations.

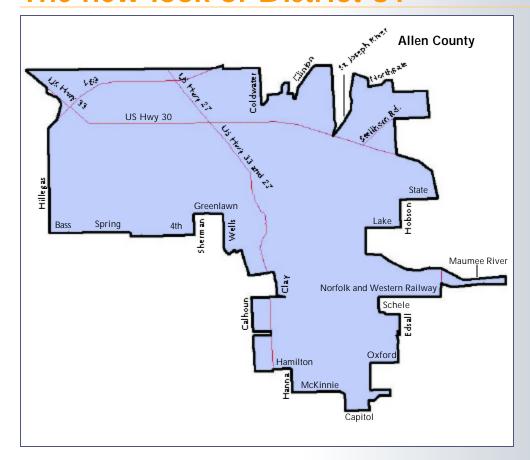
Through House Enrolled Act 1892, law enforcement officials and courts will gain the tools they need to fight the rising meth problems by placing the penalties for possession and manufacturing the drug on a par with those for cocaine.

Build Indiana Funds go to District 81

The following organizations together have been appropriated \$500,000 from this year's Build Indiana Funds.

- Lakeside Park Improvement Foundation
 - YWCA Women's Shelter
 - •Ft. Wayne Art Museum
 - Ft. Wayne Historical Museum
 - •Ft. Wayne Park Board, Memorial Park Splash Park
- African American Historical Museum
- Indiana Purdue Ft. Wayne, Innovation Park
 - •Central City Housing Trust Fund
 - •IPFW Helmke Library
 - •Ft. Wayne Police Department
- •Ft. Wayne Board of Works, Community Projects
 - Black Expo of Ft. Wayne
 - Urban League Building
 - Oxford Assoc. Building
 - Lincoln Library
 - Indiana Institute of Technology

The new look of District 81



During this year's session you may have heard about redistricting in the news. After each census, the Indiana General Assembly is required by law to redraw House, Senate and Congressional district boundaries according to population changes.

Each district must have 60,000 people, which means that as the population moves to or from various parts of the state, boundaries shift to reflect that change.

District boundaries are very complicated, and it took months of effort and debate among legislators to reach a consensus. In the end, however, I feel that the district lines we have drawn are as fair as possible.

For both the current members and those new to the district, I look forward to serving you. Please contact me if you have questions about the district or any other matters.



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Privacy from telemarketers and license branch improvements

In 2001, lawmakers took steps to help reduce the interruption of telemarketers calling you at home. Through House Enrolled Act 1222, you will be able to have your name placed on a do-not-call list that will **prohibit most solicitors from contacting you via the telephone**. To be placed on the list, contact the Office of the Indiana Attorney General about the **Telephone Privacy List at 1-888-834-9969 or online at www.in.gov/attorneygeneral**/.

License branch improvements

Changes enacted by the Legislature this year should reduce the lines at BMV license branches and make it easier to get your business done.

House Enrolled Act 1170 contains the following changes:

- •Drivers will be able to renew their licenses through the mail and over the Internet.
 - Drivers will be able to register their vehicles in any county.
- Vehicle registration deadlines will be staggered to reduce lines. Deadlines will come twice a month.
- The state will have to conduct a public hearing before closing any license branch.

In addition, transaction fees will increase by 50 cents to finance technological improvements.

My Legislative Creed

- 1. I shall study both sides of every question.
- 2. I shall solicit and listen to the information and desires of the people of Fort Wayne.
- 3. I shall ask myself the following questions:



REP. MOSES WITH FORMER GOVERNOR
OTIS BOWEN AT HIS BOOK SIGNING AT
THE INDIANA INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY IN FORT WAYNE.

- a. Is it morally right?
- b. Is it good for Fort Wayne and the State of Indiana?
- c. Will it furnish the greatest good to the greatest number?
- d. Who will it hurt? How much? What can be done to remedy it?
- e. Does it conform to rules of good sound judgement and economic principles?
- 4. After this preparation, study and guidance, I shall vote according to my own reasoning and the dictates of my own conscience.
- —Inspired by Former Governor Otis R. Bowen, M.D.